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| TRANSMITTAL FORM (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number | 10/768,727 | |
| | Filing Date | January 29, 2004 | |
| | First Named Inventor | Keven E. Miller et al. | |
| | Art Unit | | |
| | Examiner Name | | |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | | Attorney Docket Number | TN-1697A |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply) | | |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Return Post Card |
| Remarks | | |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT | | |
| Firm or Individual name | Adan Ayala, Esq. | |
| Signature | | |
| Date | November 12, 2004 | |

| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING | | | |
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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below. | | | |
| Typed or printed name | Adan Ayala, Esq. | | |
| Signature | | Date | November 12, 2004 |

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UTILITY PATENT

B&D No. TN -1697A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: **Keven A. MILLER et al.**

Serial No.: **10/768,727**

Examiner:

Filed: **January 29, 2004**

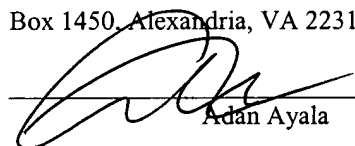
Group Art Unit:

For: **CONTACT TRIP ASSEMBLY FOR FASTENING TOOL**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I, Adan Ayala, Reg. No. 38,373, certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Nov. 12, 2004


Adan Ayala

Dear Sir:

In compliance with 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit a copy of the European Patent Office search report for a corresponding application, and request that the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449 be made of record in the above-identified application. Copies of these documents are enclosed herein.

In particular, the EPO examiner cited US Patent No. 5,263,842 as “particularly relevant if taken alone” (Category X).

No fee is due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge payment of any fees due in processing this statement, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2548.

UTILITY PATENT

B&D No. TN -1697A

To discuss any aspect of this disclosure statement, or any other aspects of this application,
the Examiner should call the undersigned Applicants' representative.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Adan Ayala', written over a horizontal line.

Adan Ayala, Reg. No. 38,373
Attorney for Applicants
Phone No. (410) 716-2368

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

| | | | |
|-------|---|----|---|
| Sheet | 2 | of | 2 |
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Complete if Known

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| Application Number | 10/768.727 |
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| <i>Filing Date</i> | January 29, 2004 |
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| First Named Inventor | Keven E. Miller et al. |
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Art Unit

Examiner Name _____

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Attorney Docket Number | TN-1697A |
|------------------------|----------|

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner
Initials *Cite
No.¹

Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

 T^2

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U. MATZDORF, European Search Report Application Number EP 02 25 0631, September 21, 2004, The Hague

2

Annex to the European Search Report on European Patent Application No. EP 02 25 0631

Examiner
Signature

Date
Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 120 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

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